



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett  
*County Executive*

Mr. Tejas Patel  
IRD/ASI Tejas Patel  
APO AE 09355

Dear Mr. Patel:

Please consider the enclosed Montgomery County flag as a gift from a grateful community that appreciates the sacrifices you are making in serving our country.

This flag was flown in front of the Executive Office Building in Rockville, Maryland from sunrise to sunset on September 17, 2010.

It especially pleases me, as a former Vietnam veteran, to be able to provide you with a flag from your home County. I feel great pride in knowing that I serve residents like you who have heeded the call to duty and are representing our nation with courage and valor. Abraham Lincoln once said, "I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him." I can assure you that those of us in Montgomery County, Maryland are proud of you and your service to this nation.

As a County resident, you may already know that the flag uses some elements of the family arms of General Richard Montgomery for whom the County was named. General Montgomery lost his life leading an American revolutionary army against the walls of Quebec in the opening days of the Revolution. The design of the flag is based on the shield of the official coat of arms of Montgomery County which was approved by The College of Arms in London, England and officially adopted by Bill 38-76 (now Section 1-402 of the County Code) enacted by the County Council on October 5, 1976 at the request of the County Executive.

The gold fleur-de-lis in two quarters of the flag is a reminder of the French ancestry of the Montgomery family. The gold rings with blue gemstones in two quarters of the flag proclaim royal favor and protection and are found in the family coat of arms of General Montgomery's family. The indented line which separates the upper quarters of the flag from the lower quarters of the flag represents the borders of a local government.

I hope this flag brings you fond memories of home as you serve our country in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. May God bless you during your tour of duty, and may you return safely to family and friends.

Sincerely,

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive